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Atty. Dkt. No. 089367-0125

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Kimikazu MATSUMOTO
Title: ACTIVE MATRIX TYPE LIQUID CRYSTAL
DISPLAY DEVICE AND METHOD OF
MANUFACTURING THE SAME
Appl. No.: 10/800,738
Filing Date: 03/16/2004
Examiner: R. H. Kim
Art Unit: 2871

INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT
UNDER 37 CFR §1.56

Mail Stop PATENT APPLICATION
Commissioner for Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, VA 22313-1450

Sir:

Submitted herewith on Form PTO/SB/08 is a listing of documents known to Applicant in order to comply with Applicant's duty of disclosure pursuant to 37 CFR §1.56. A copy of each listed document is being submitted to comply with the provisions of 37 CFR §1.97 and §1.98.

The submission of any document herewith, which is not a statutory bar, is not intended as an admission that such document constitutes prior art against the claims of the present application or that such document is considered material to patentability as defined in 37 CFR §1.56(b). Applicant does not waive any rights to take any action which would be appropriate to antedate or otherwise remove as a competent reference any document which is determined to be a *prima facie* art reference against the claims of the present application.



TIMING OF THE DISCLOSURE

The listed documents are being submitted in compliance with 37 CFR §1.97(b), before the mailing date of the first Office Action on the merits, and within three (3) months of the mailing date of the foreign counterpart application Office Action.

CERTIFICATION

The undersigned hereby certifies in accordance with 37 C.F.R. 1.97(e)(1) that the items listed on the Form PTO SB/08 submitted with this Information Disclosure Statement were first cited in a communication from a foreign patent office in a counterpart foreign application not more than three (3) months prior to the filing of this Statement.

RELEVANCE OF EACH DOCUMENT

The relevance of the foreign-language document is described in the present specification listed document was cited by the Korean Patent Office (KRO) in connection with a counterpart application. In reference to the cited reference, the KRO stated as follows:

“1. The present invention relates to an active matrix liquid crystal display device comprising a common electrode which opposes a data line across an insulating film on the substrate and has a slit in the area that overlaps with said data line; and a pixel electrode which generates an electric field between itself and said common electrode.

On the other hand, the liquid crystal display device of Korean Unexamined Patent Application Publication 1998-33299 (July 25, 1998; hereinafter “Cited Invention 1”) has a structure arranged such that the common electrode covers the data line, and in Claims 4 to 5 of Cited Invention 1, it is stated that the common electrode is arranged closer from the liquid crystal layer than the data line, and that the common electrode has a slit area formed above the data line. Furthermore, Korean Unexamined Patent Application Publication 2001-6187 (January 26, 2001; hereinafter, “Cited Invention 2”) relates to a lateral electric field type liquid crystal display device, wherein the pixel electrode and the opposed electrode are formed in a comb tooth shape on the same organic film, and the opposed electrode covers the video signal line on the insulating film.

Comparing the present invention to Cited Inventions 1 and 2, the structure of the present invention comprising the common electrode overlapping with the data line is similar to Cited Inventions 1 and 2, and the structure of the common electrode having a slit is similar to Cited Invention

1. Furthermore, the structure of arranging the common electrode and pixel electrode on the same surface is similar to Cited Invention 2.

Therefore, it is judged that the present invention could have been easily invented without any difficulty of technical configuration by a person having ordinary knowledge in this technical field on the basis of Cited Inventions 1 and 2 or a combination of the constitutive elements of these cited inventions (Article 29, Paragraph 2 of the Patent Law).

2. In the language of Claims 1 and 10 of the present invention, viz. "one end of the electric current path has a current path connected together opposed to the aforementioned data line.... the opposed control terminal connected together... to the other end of the current path of the switching element," the connection relationship between the component elements is not clear. Furthermore, with respect to the language of Claim 26 and Claim 41, the expression "... aforementioned common electrode and/or aforementioned pixel electrode..." is not found to clearly describe the constitution of the invention (Article 42, Subsection 4, Paragraph 2 of the Patent Law).

(Attachments)

Attachment 1 Reproduction of Korean Unexamined Patent Application Publication 1998-33299 (July 25, 1998) 1 copy

Attachment 2 Reproduction of Korean Unexamined Patent Application Publication 2001-6187 (January 26, 2001) 1 copy"

Full English-language translations of the foreign-language documents are not readily available. However, the absence of such translations does not relieve the PTO from its duty to consider the submitted foreign language documents (37 CFR §1.98 and MPEP §609).

Applicant respectfully requests that any listed document be considered by the Examiner and be made of record in the present application and that an initialed copy of Form PTO/SB/08 be returned in accordance with MPEP §609.

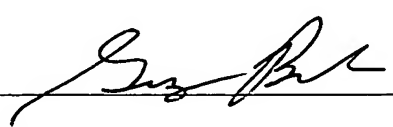

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 CFR §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to

Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

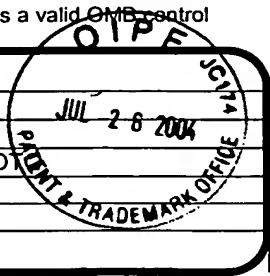
Date 7/26/04

FOLEY & LARDNER LLP
Customer Number: 22428
Telephone: (202) 672-5407
Facsimile: (202) 672-5399

By  RN 38072
 David A. Blumenthal
Attorney for Applicant
Registration No. 26,257

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Substitute for form 1449B/PTO INFORMATION DISCLOSURE STATEMENT BY APPLICANT Date Submitted: July 26, 2004 <i>(use as many sheets as necessary)</i>			Complete if Known <table border="1" style="width: 100%; border-collapse: collapse;"> <tr> <td style="width: 50%;">Application Number</td> <td>10/800,738</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Filing Date</td> <td>03/16/2004</td> </tr> <tr> <td>First Named Inventor</td> <td>Kimikazu MATSUMO</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Group Art Unit</td> <td>2871</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Examiner Name</td> <td>R. H. Kim</td> </tr> <tr> <td>Attorney Docket Number</td> <td>089367-0125</td> </tr> </table>		Application Number	10/800,738	Filing Date	03/16/2004	First Named Inventor	Kimikazu MATSUMO	Group Art Unit	2871	Examiner Name	R. H. Kim	Attorney Docket Number	089367-0125
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Sheet	1	of	1													



U.S. PATENT DOCUMENTS						
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	U.S. Patent Document		Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Document	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Number	Kind Code ² (if known)			
	A1	6,069,678		Sakamoto et al.	05-30-2000	
	A2	6,208,399		Ohta et al.	03-27-2001	
	A3	6,388,725		Ohta et al.	05-14-2002	
	A4	6,392,730		Ohta et al.	05-21-2002	
	A5	6,512,567		Ohta et al.	01-28-2003	
	A6	6,522,369		Ohta et al.	02-18-2003	
	A7	6,693,687		Ohta et al.	02-17-2004	
	A8	6,738,108		Ohta et al.	05-18-2004	
	A9	2001-0009447		Ohta, Masuyuki et al.	07-26-2001	
	A10	2001-0010573		Ohta, Masuyuki et al.	08-02-2001	
	A11	2002-0105611		Ohta, Masuyuki et al.	08-08-2002	
	A12	2002-0105612		Ohta, Masuyuki et al.	08-08-2002	
	A13	2003-0156232		Ohta, Masuyuki et al.	08-21-2003	
	A14	2003-0147021		Ohta, Masuyuki et al.	08-07-2003	

FOREIGN PATENT DOCUMENTS							
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Foreign Patent Document			Name of Patentee or Applicant of Cited Documents	Date of Publication of Cited Document MM-DD-YYYY	Pages, Columns, Lines, Where Relevant Passages or Relevant Figures Appear
		Office ³	Number ⁴	Kind Code ⁵ (if known)			T ⁶
	A15	KR	1998-033299		NEC Corp	07-25-1998	Abstract
	A16	KR	2001-0006187		Hitachi Ltd.	01-26-2001	Abstract

NON PATENT LITERATURE DOCUMENTS			
Examiner Initials*	Cite No. ¹	Include name of the author (in CAPITAL LETTERS), title of the article (when appropriate), title of the item (book, magazine, journal, serial, symposium, catalog, etc.) date, page(s), volume-issue number(s), publisher, city and/or country where published.	T ⁶

Examiner Signature	Date Considered	
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*EXAMINER: Initial if reference considered, whether or not citation is in conformance with MPEP 609. Draw line through citation if not in conformance and not considered. Include copy of this form with next communication to applicant.

¹ Unique citation designation number. ² See attached Kinds of U.S. Patent Documents. ³ Enter Office that issued the document, by the two-letter code (WIPO Standard ST.3). ⁴ For Japanese patent documents, the indication of the year of the reign of the Emperor must precede the serial number of the patent document. ⁵ Kind of document by the appropriate symbols as indicated on the document under WIPO Standard ST. 18 if possible. ⁶ Applicant is to place a check mark here if English language Translation is attached.

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